

REPORT NO. 77-3-27

FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT UNIT  
U.S. FOREST SERVICE  
DORAVILLE, GEORGIA

REPORT OF AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: Chattahoochee National Forest,  
Brasstown, Chestatee, Chattooga,  
Tallulah Ranger Districts

STATE: Georgia

AREA WITHIN SURVEY BOUNDARY: 868,000 acres DATE: 6/1-2/77

PERCENT COVERAGE: 50% AIRCRAFT: Cessna 182 CREW: C. W. Dull  
P. A. Mistretta  
R. F. Bassett

SURVEY OBJECTIVES: To detect and delineate areas of  
defoliation caused by the fall cankerworm, *Alsophila*  
*pometaria* (Harris).

SURVEY RESULTS

The aerial survey revealed approximately 50,000 acres of hardwood heavily defoliated (75-100%) on the Chattahoochee National Forest. Extensive areas of defoliation were observed from Lake Winfield Scott, on the west, to Sheriff Knob, east to Poor Mountain and south to Levelland Mountain. Other areas of defoliation were found around Addis Gap, Unicoi Gap, Spaniard Knob and Tray Mountain (see attached maps).

On-site examinations identified the primary causal agent as the fall canker worm. Larval development was completed except for a few scattered individuals in the later instars. Many defoliated trees were beginning to produce new foliage. Little timber mortality was detected.

CONCLUSIONS

Heavy defoliation due to the fall cankerworm was observed in extensive areas which include many scenic and high use recreation sites. The fall cankerworm is a serious forest pest because it can cause severe timber mortality after several successive years of defoliation and it is a nuisance to campers and hikers.

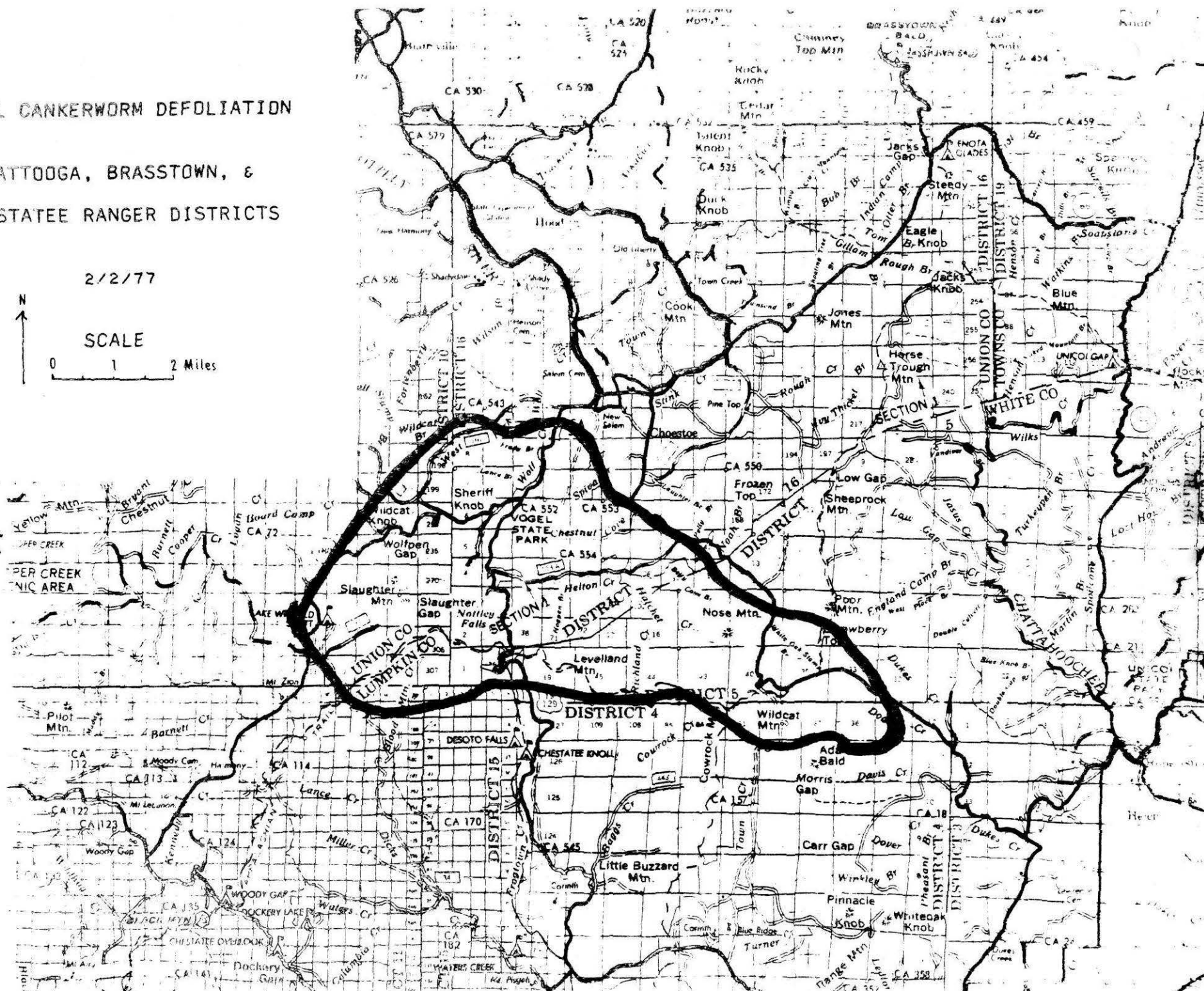
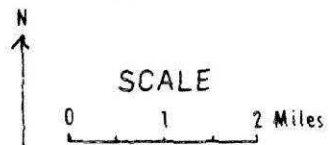
Since timber and recreation values are high in this area, the fall cankerworm infestations should be monitored to determine the potential for increase and to determine the impact of the outbreak on the forest resources.

---

For any additional information, Contact:  
Forest Insect and Disease Management Unit  
Southeastern Area, State & Private Forestry  
Northgate Office Park, Room 2103  
3620 Interstate 85, N.E.  
Doraville, Georgia 30340  
Telephone 404-221-4796

CHATTOOGA, BRASSTOWN, &  
CHESTATEE RANGER DISTRICTS

SCALE



# FALL CANKERWORM DEFOLIATION

CHATTOOGA, BRASSTOWN, &  
TALLULAH RANGER DISTRICTS

2/2/77

SCALE

0 1 2 Miles

